

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A submersible device for attracting and stimulating aquatic animals, said device  
2 comprising:  
3           a watertight housing;  
4           a first transducer element disposed within said housing; and  
5           a diaphragm operably connected to said first transducer element,  
6 wherein said device is operable as either a speaker or a hydrophone in response to  
7 control signals received from a programmable device above water; and  
8 wherein said device emits one or more prerecorded acoustical signals in a  
9 specified sequence and at a specified volume in response to control signals  
10 received from said programmable device above water; and  
11 wherein said one or more prerecorded acoustical signals comprise sounds of prey  
12 being attacked and eaten underwater.

1           2. The submersible transducer device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:  
2           a second transducer element disposed within said housing; and  
3           a second diaphragm operably connected to said second transducer element,  
4 wherein said second transducer element is positioned opposite said first  
5 transducer element.

1           3. The submersible transducer device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a  
2 flotation device coupled to said housing.

1        4. A system for attracting and stimulating aquatic animals, said system comprising:  
2                a submersible device comprising a transducer element disposed within a  
3                watertight housing; and  
4                a programmable control unit operably connected to said submersible device, said  
5                programmable control unit comprising:  
6                a processor;  
7                a memory device operably connected to said processor, for storing a  
8                plurality of digital sound recordings; and  
9                an input device operably connected to said processor, for selecting one or  
10               more of said plurality of digital sound recordings to be played via  
11               said submersible device according to a pre-selected program,  
12        wherein said submersible device is responsive to control signals received from  
13               said programmable control unit.

1        5.        The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said control signals comprise signals  
2        for controlling volume of playback.

1        6.        The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said control signals comprise signals  
2        for sweeping volume of playback within a selected range of volume levels.

1        7.        The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said control signals further comprise a  
2        time interval between changes in said volume levels.

1        8.        The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said control signals comprise a delay  
2        signal.

1        9.        The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein playback of said one or more of said  
2        plurality of digital sound recordings is intermittent.

1        10.       The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said plurality of digital sound  
2        recordings comprise an audio recording of fish in distress.

1        11.       The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said plurality of digital sound  
2        recordings comprise an audio recording of prey being attacked and eaten underwater.

1           12.     The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transducer element is positioned  
2     opposite from a second transducer element within said housing.

1           13.     A method for attracting and stimulating aquatic animals, said method comprising  
2     the steps of:

3                 selecting one or more digital sound recordings from a memory device which

4                         stores a plurality of digital sound recordings;

5                 selecting a delay period;

6                 repeatedly transmitting a signal to an underwater transducer device,

7                 wherein said signal corresponds to the one or more digital sound recordings; and

8                 wherein successive transmissions of the signal are separated by the delay period;

9                         and

10                 wherein said plurality of digital sound recordings include recordings of aquatic

11                         animals feeding.

1           14.     The method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising the step of selecting a  
2     sequential arrangement of digital sound recordings from the plurality of digital sound recordings.

1           15.     The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of selecting an  
2     individual volume level for each of said digital sound recordings in said sequential arrangement.

1           16.     The method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising the step of gradually  
2     increasing the volume level of the signal up to a selected maximum volume level.

1           17.     The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of selecting an  
2     interval of time between increases in the volume level.

1           18.     The method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising the step of receiving  
2     acoustical signals from said underwater transducer device.

1           19.     The method as claimed in claim 18, further comprising the step of comparing one  
2     or more characteristics of said acoustical signals to one or more characteristics of said plurality  
3     of digital sound recordings.

1           20.     The method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising the step of recording  
2     acoustical signals received from said underwater transducer device.